Public Notice Proposed Revision of the Construction Permit to Alton Steel, Inc. in Alton

Alton Steel, Inc. has applied to revise the construction permit (#00010015) issued by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) for changes to the melt shop at its steel mill located at 5 Cut Street in Alton. The melt shop at Alton Steel has two electric arc furnaces (EAF), No. 7 and No. 8. This construction permit, which was originally issued to Laclede Steel for improvements to the melt shop, restricts EAF No. 8 to use as a stand-by unit and limited steel production to 769,600 tons per year. Alton Steel is now requesting that the construction permit be revised allowing EAF No. 8 to be used as a main production furnace and to increase steel production to 786,000 tons per year. The permit would also be revised to update the prior netting analysis for nitrogen oxides and sulfur dioxide performed by Laclede Steel to reflect actual emission data from 2001 stack testing and the subsequent shutdown of the blooming, pipe and rod mills by Alton Steel. These revisions to the permit still result in net emission changes below emissions thresholds established under the federal rules for Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD), 40 CFR 52.21 and state rules 35 IAC 203: Major Stationary Source Construction and Modification (MSSCAM).

Based on its review of Alton Steel's application, the Illinois EPA has made a <u>preliminary</u> determination that this project is entitled to a construction permit. **The Illinois EPA is accepting comments prior to making a final decision on the application for this project. Comments must be postmarked by midnight April 19, 2006.** If sufficient interest is expressed in this matter, a hearing may be held. Comments, questions and requests for information, should be directed to Brad Frost, Bureau of Air, Illinois EPA, P. O. Box 19506, Springfield, IL 62794-9506, phone 217/782-2113, TDD 217/782-9143.

Persons wanting more information may view the draft permit and project summary at www.epa.gov/region5/air/permits/ilonline.htm (please look under All Permit Records, State Construction Permit, Revision). These documents and the application may also be viewed at the Illinois EPA's offices at 2009 Mall Street in Collinsville, 618/346-5120 and 1340 N. Ninth St., Springfield, 217/782-7027 (please call ahead to assure that someone will be available to assist you). Copies of the documents will be made available upon request.